WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A writing device comprising:

laser means for irradiating a beam of laser light with a laser drive pulse supplied to said laser means and forming, on a recording medium, a train of record data in the form of pits and lands between the pits;

laser drive pulse generating means for generating a laser drive pulse corresponding to the record data; and

waveform adjusting means including a first delay circuit for delaying the laser drive pulse using a high-frequency clock in sync with the laser drive pulse to provide a delay time in units of said high-frequency clock, a second delay circuit for delaying the laser drive pulse using multistage delay gates to provide a delay time shorter than the delay time provided by said first delay circuit, and a delay time control unit for variably controlling the delay time of said first delay circuit and the delay time of said second delay circuit, said waveform adjusting means delaying the whole or part of a waveform of the laser drive pulse generated by said laser drive pulse generating means and supplying, to said laser means, the laser drive pulse having been adjusted in the direction of the time base.

2. A writing device according to Claim 1, wherein said

delay time control unit of said waveform adjusting means sets the delay time of said first delay circuit and the delay time of said second delay circuit depending on a length of a pit going to be recorded on said recording medium and a length of a land just before said pit.

3. A writing device according to Claim 1, wherein said waveform adjusting means includes a plurality of delay sections each comprising said first delay circuit and said second delay circuit, and

a plurality of pulses are created from the laser drive pulse generated by said laser drive pulse generating means and are supplied to said delay sections, respectively, and outputs from said delay sections are synthesized to form a laser drive pulse supplied to said laser means.

4. A writing device according to Claim 1, wherein said first delay circuit and said second delay circuit are situated in one IC chip.

5. A writing device according to Claim 1, further comprising measuring means for measuring characteristics of the multistage delay gates in said second delay circuit.

6. A writing device according to Claim 5, wherein said

delay time control unit controls the delay time of said second delay circuit using information obtained from a measurement result of said measuring means.

7. A writing device according to Claim 3, further comprising a register for holding delay amounts, which correspond to delay times set in said plurality of delay sections, depending on lengths of the pits and lands.

8. A method of irradiating a beam of laser light onto a recording medium and forming, on said recording medium, a train of record data in the form of pits and lands, said method comprising the steps of:

generating a laser drive pulse corresponding to the record data;

delaying the laser drive pulse using a clock in sync with the laser drive pulse to provided a first delay time in units of said clock;

delaying the laser drive pulse using multistage delay gates to provide a second delay time shorter than the first delay time;

changing the first delay time and the second delay time to adjust the laser drive pulse in the direction of the time base; and

supplying the adjusted laser drive pulse to a laser.

9. A method according to Claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

dividing the generated laser drive pulse into a plurality of pulses; and

synthesizing said plurality of pulses having been delayed through the first delay time and the second delay time.